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Message Text

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---------- 128831
R 052222Z MAR 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KABUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044183

THE FOL TEL FROM TEHRAN DATED MAR JWN 1974
TO SECSTATE WASHDC INFO KABUL AND ISLAMABAD
IS REPTED:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1673

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

DEPT PLEASSE PASS OPEC AND OECD CAPITALS AT DISCRETION

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, EAID, EFIN, IR
SUBJ: IRANIAN ASSISTANCE PLAN FOR LDC'S

REF: A. TEHRAN 1604 B. TEHRAN 1609

SUMMARY: DURING FAREWELL CALL BY DCM ON FINANCE MINISTER AMOUZEGAR, LATTER OUTLINED NEXT STEPS IRAN IS TAKING TO PROMOTE ITS PLAN FOR SOFT LOAN FUND TO AID LDC'S AND EXPRESSED HOPE US WOULD SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE AS ONE OF 12 INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES IN THIS PROGRAM. END SUMMARY

1. AMOUZEGAR TOLD DCM FEBRUARY 28 THAT NEXT STEP BY GOI TO EST-
ABLISH NEW INSTITUTION TO HELP LDC'S WOULD BE FOR MFA TO CIRCUL-
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ARIZE DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN TEHRAN WITH NOTE SOLICITING SUPPORT

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OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS IN PROPOSAL WHICH AMOUZEGAR OUTLINED TO DIPLOMATIC CORPS CHIEFS ON FEBRUARY 26 (TEHRAN 1609). THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED UP BY DEMARCHES BY IRANIAN EMBASSIES IN SELECTED CAPITALS INCLUDING WASHINGTON. IN ADDITION, AMBASSADOR ZAHEDI WILL BE ASKED TO BRIEF KEY AMERICAN OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, AND AMERICAN PRESS ON IRAN'S PROPOSAL. AMOUZEGAR EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS WOULD HELP GENERATE PUBLIC OPINION IN FAVOR OF FUND.

2. AMOUZEGAR SAID GOI IS ANXIOUS TO LINE UP ARAB SUPPORT AND IS SOLICITING KING FAISAL'S PARTICIPATION. BOTH MCNAMARA AND SADAT HAVE BEEN ASKED TO WORK ON FAISAL. GOI IS ALSO INTERESTED IN GETTING PLEDGES FROM TWO OR THREE OPEC AND INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE TO GET BALL ROLLING. HE SAID THAT AFTER HIS PRESENTATION ON FEBRUARY 26 BOTH JAPANESE AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS HERE EXPRESSED VIEW THEIR GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE INTERESTED. AND REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVERAL EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ALSO REGISTERED INTEREST BUT DOUBTED THEY COULD AFFORT INITIAL NATIONAL ALLOCATION OF $150 MILLION WHICH HAD BEEN SUGGESTED. AMOUZEGAR TOLD THEM TO GET TOGETHER AND POOL THEIR RESOURCES UP TO THAT AMOUNT AND THIS WOULD GIVE THEM ONE COLLECTIVE VOTE.

3. AMOUZEGAR WENT ON TO ASK FOR US SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION. HE SAID SHAH WOULD LIKE TO GET THIS PLAN OUT FROM UNDER OPEC WHICH WILL BE ORIENTED TOWARDS MUSLIM LDC'S. SHAH FEELS INSTITUTION SHOULD BE OPEN TO ALL NEEDY LDC'S REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL OR OTHER COLORATION. AMOUZEGAR EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT PLAN MIGHT SLIP BACK INTO OPEC FRAMEWORK WITH AID LIMITED TO MUSLIM STATES IF THERE IS NOT SUFFICIENT RESPONSE FROM INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT IF BOTH EASTERN EUROPEAN AND WESTERN INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES PARTICIPATE THIS WOULD BE NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR EAST AND WEST TO COOPERATE IN ALLEVIATING PLIGHT OF LDC'S. AMOUZEGAR CONCLUDED WITH EXPRESSION OF HOPE THAT US WOULD HELP MAINTAIN MOMENTUM OF PLAN BY PARTICIPATION.

COMMENT: AT DIPLOMATIC CORPS FUNCTION FEBRUARY 28 SEVERAL ARAB AMBASSADORS EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT PLAN WITH SAUDI ARABIAN AMBASSADOR STATING IT WOULD NOT FIND "FERTILE SOIL" IN HIS COUNTRY. GOI CLEARLY RECOGNIZES FAISAL'S SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL AND WE HEAR SPECIAL EMISSARY IS BEING SENT TO JIDDA TO URGE KING'S ENDORSEMENT. HELMS
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UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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